

This is yet another example of the incompetent attitude and lack of will on government bureaucrats to secure the American border. American border security should not be sacrificed on the altar of greed.

And that's just the way it is.

#### AMERICA WANTS A NEW DIRECTION ON IRAQ

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, the previous days have offered a series of reports on conditions in Iraq. These reports have been consistent: Iraq remains dangerous, unstable, and political progress is virtually nonexistent.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. The President's escalation was supposed to give the Iraqi Government and the ethnic groups the room they needed to make political progress. That progress simply has not happened.

So now, after 4½ years, billions of dollars, thousands of lives, and countless new slogans, the Bush administration is just giving us the status quo. Instead of a new strategy for Iraq, the Bush administration is cherry-picking the data to support the political objectives and preparing a report that will offer yet another defense of the President's strategy.

We don't need a report that wins a Nobel Prize for creative statistics or the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Americans are demanding the facts, an end to this open-ended commitment, a surge on the political and diplomatic front. In short, the American people want a new direction in Iraq.

#### TRIBUTE TO PAUL GILLMOR

(Mr. SENSENBRENNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week the House of Representatives lost a giant, and the people of Ohio and indeed all Americans lost a true legislative workman with the passing of Congressman Paul Gillmor.

When I first was elected to this House, I was told by former President Gerald Ford, who served with distinction here for many, many years, that there are two types of representatives: The workhorse and the show horse. The show horse, you see their face on TV all the time and they issue bombastic press releases. It is the workhorses that get the work done in this Chamber for the American people.

Paul Gillmor was a workhorse. Not only was he a workhorse and a true legislative craftsman, but he applied what those of us who live in the upper Midwest refer to as Midwestern common sense. We think that we have maybe more of that than those that live in other parts of the country. But Paul's Midwestern common sense

meant that the legislative activities that he was engaged in were done professionally and were done for the benefit of all Americans.

I am sorry to see Paul pass. We have all lost a giant. Cheryl and I send our condolences to his wife and his children.

#### 9/11 HEALTH CRISIS IS A NATIONAL PROBLEM

(Mrs. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, 6 years ago the terrorist attacks of 9/11 were an act of war against our entire Nation, not just New York. The whole country was touched; and in the aftermath, people came from every State in the Nation to assist in the massive rescue and recovery efforts. All of these people from all of these States were all exposed to the same deadly toxins.

While press reports may question the size and scope of the problem, there is no doubt that there are thousands who are ill because of their exposure. Whether these brave firefighters and fire officers and EMTs came from California, Michigan or Florida, they all breathed the same toxic air.

This map shows how many people from each State are enrolled in the World Trade Center Health Registry; over 71,000 people from every single State in our Nation. At least 28 even came from Hawaii. The list goes on and on.

But the message of the map is clear: The 9/11 health crisis is a national problem, and it deserves a strong Federal response.

#### SUPPORT THE HOMELESS EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue that means a great deal to me, the education of homeless youth.

Shortly before the August recess, this House overwhelmingly passed a resolution commemorating the 20th anniversary of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. In addition to recognizing the positive impact of McKinney-Vento, this resolution called on policymakers to unite behind certain common goals for the future. One of those goals is to improve the access of homeless children and youth to education in the public schools.

In order to meet this goal, I invite my colleagues to cosponsor a bill that I recently introduced with Representatives SARBANES and GRIJALVA, H.R. 3205, the Homeless Education Improvement Act of 2007. The bill will extend and improve the successful homeless children and youth programs in NCLB.

Mr. Speaker, being without a home should not mean being without an edu-

cation. I strongly encourage my colleagues to cosponsor the Homeless Education Act.

#### BRING OUR TROOPS HOME

(Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am compelled to come before the body today to talk about my deep concern about our continued engagement in Iraq.

In the past 4½ years, we have gone from "mission accomplished" to "mission untrue," and, in the words of one of our colleagues here on the Republican side, to "mission unknown." In fact, we are arming and fueling this growing civil war.

We have found Shia on Shia violence, Sunni on Sunni violence and Shia on Sunni violence. Our troops have no idea what the mission is anymore. I would submit, Mr. Speaker, that this is "mission impossible." It is time to bring our troops home.

Just recently we found that 190,000 weapons are unaccounted for. There are plenty of weapons in the ministry of interior, which has come to be a police force against our own troops.

Mr. Speaker, we need to bring our troops home.

#### SUPPORT THE CHARLIE NORWOOD CLEAR ACT OF 2007

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Charlie Norwood CLEAR Act of 2007. Our late friend and colleague, Representative Charlie Norwood, introduced common-sense legislation to institute an efficient system, an efficient system, of identifying and detaining criminal aliens. Our good friend is gone, but his idea remains as viable today as it was the day that he first introduced it in the 108th Congress.

There are 400,000 alien absconders in our country, with 285,000 possessing criminal records. This bill targets those criminals by increasing Federal funds to local law enforcement agencies that need those funds, providing police that are on the beat with the resources they need and giving them the background, the information, to enforce immigration law.

It also cuts funding to sanctuary cities which have enacted laws prohibiting local police from detaining and arresting criminal aliens. Most notably, it requires the Federal Government to take these criminal aliens into custody within 48 hours.

Join me in supporting the Charlie Norwood CLEAR Act of 2007.